

## Reporting Hybrid Meeting of 21 November 2022

### Calendar of Events

**Last Week:** 11/14 Saratoga Plan – Michelle Culbert

**This Week:** 11/21 District Governor Denise DiNoto Visitation  
(Multi-Club visit, Zoom and Ballston Town Hall)

**Next Week** 11/28 No Monday Meeting  
11/29 Tuesday Community Event –  
Holiday Drive-Thru Parade

**Coming Up** 12/5 Veterans & Community Housing Coalition –  
Open House at Foreverly House

**Note: Regular Meetings are held Mondays at 6:30 pm.** Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom link and password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

Note: Many Meetings are now hybrid with an in-person option.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower & Peter Sawyer.*

*Find us at [bhblrotary.org](http://bhblrotary.org) and on Facebook*

*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves*

### District Governor Visit- Denise DiNoto

This week we had the pleasure of Denise DiNoto, District Governor of District 7190, visiting and speaking at our club meeting. This was a multi club event with Rotarians attending from the following clubs: Ballston Spa Rotary, Glenville Rotary, Schenectady East Rotary, Malta Sunrise Rotary, Niskayuna Rotary, and Rotterdam Sunrise.

Denise said she is honored to represent our club and all the clubs in our district. She is thankful for all that our club and the rest of the clubs in the district accomplish and the support we give to our communities. Although Denise is officially a “newer” Rotarian as she called herself, since only joining a club in 2013, she also calls herself a long-time supporter of Rotary. Her father was a Rotarian and she has fond memories of the first time she went with him on a service project as a young girl.

This interest and support grew and culminated in Denise serving as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student traveling to Australia. She was extremely nervous about the trip, especially as an individual depending on a wheelchair. She received some sage advice before the trip, in that whatever she is asked to do, any invitation you receive, *Just Do It*, as you never know when you will get another chance. She took the advice and took all the

culture and experience opportunities available. She says she grew as a person immensely through the Rotary Youth Exchange program.

She now enjoys traveling and works to share her vision of inclusion and access for all. It was through her work that she was introduced back to Rotary. It was evident to the Rotarians she met that she already knew a lot about Rotary, the mission, 4-Way Test, etc. They asked her why she was not a Rotarian and she replied “Well, I haven’t been asked”. She was immediately welcomed, and sought to find the right club here in the Capital Region. She found her home in the Colonie-Guilderland Club.

Denise spoke about making sure that clubs ensure that new members are the right fit for the club, and if not, then perhaps find a club that better suits them, and what they can offer to that club, and to Rotary as a whole.

She then spoke about this year’s Rotary theme, *Imagine Rotary*. She posed the question of not what you can imagine Rotary doing in the community, but to imagine what if Rotary was not in the community. To think of all the great things and support that would be missed. After giving lists of examples of all that our clubs do in the district, she reiterated how important and crucial we are to our communities.

She asks that we continue our amazing work and with one caveat. To give new ideas a chance, especially when coming from new members. Sometimes those ideas become long-term community-support events such as the *Amazing Race to Recovery* that her club started in the past few years, which has become their biggest yearly fundraiser. She ended with the goal to *Keep Imagining Rotary*.

She then took questions from the Rotarians and spoke about the merging of our two neighboring Districts 7170 and 7150 which serve the Binghamton and the Utica/Syracuse areas. This should happen in the 2023-2024 Rotary year.

We then heard from different club representatives on key events and updates.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Trail Maintenance at Camp Stomping Grounds on Nov 25 (1 – 3 pm) and Dec 3 (9 – 12).
- 12/17 INTERACT needs help packing food at Immaculate Conception Church (9 - 11:30)
- Contact Sue Stec for Holiday Party meal preferences. Limit gifts to bought locally, to \$15. No alcohol or scented candles.
- Gregg is evaluating and soliciting help for a possible clay-target shooting fund raiser at Guan Ho Ha shooting range in Glenville.
- On Dec 5 the Veterans and Community Housing Coalition is holding an open house at Foreverly House
- BHBL Rotary is participating in Wreaths Across America on Dec 12 at Noon at the Saratoga National Cemetery.
- Gini recited a great *peace quote*.

Reported by Jon Costolo